

considerably more than what...what was discussed. At that time in 1989-90, \$20 million per year though was approved. Nineteen ninety-one, HELP was authorized, with the passage of 1991, became a permanent part of our statutes and we appropriated \$15 million for '91-92, taking a 5 million dollar hit immediately. The Governor vetoed 8 million out of the appropriations in 1992 and, in an attempt to put back those permanent funds for HELP by recapturing one cent from the motor vehicle tax, it did not...did not pass. In fact, it failed by one vote. It was a windfall to the Highway Department and it was, in fact, a tax that was designated and earmarked for teachers. Twice then the teachers were given a...were short-changed. Just recently again the teachers were hoping that funds could be developed and, in fact, some permanent form of permanent funding mechanism could be developed. The pop tax LB, as we all know, was in fact supposed to be that vehicle. What my amendment simply does is provides that should that bill, LB 98, be successful that we should appropriate from those funds \$5,128,800 in '93-94 and \$8,000,000 in '94-95, and the reason for the amendment which does, in fact, change the numbers, as I've just described, is because that's the amount of dollars that would be available. If we left it as it originally indicated, of course we'd have to find some other general revenue monies. The teachers agree and I also agree that that would not be an appropriate thing to do. I would simply ask for your consideration. It seems to make sense for us to establish those funds. As you all know, there is some controversy involved regarding the use of the aid monies, LB 1059. There are administrators and there are school boards that do not want those funds used for the teacher HELP program. Necessarily agree with that, but on the other hand I can understand their political dilemma in that regard. They would rather control those funds and spend it the way they see fit. However, this would relieve us all from that political responsibility and, in fact, as the bill was originally introduced, provide the funds the way I thought it was going to be spent and I would ask for your support for this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Before we proceed, I would like to call the senators' attention to the area under the north balcony. A special guest today of the Legislature is former state senator Gary Hannibal of District 4 in Omaha. Please be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. Senator Moore, you're next.